

Tin Can Sailors Honor Marine Heroes Shown (left to right) Richard Jones, Ken Williams, Leo Baehler, Charles, Kletz and Dick Heller, members of the Tin Can Sailor's color guard at Picatinny Arsenal. They participated in the Sept. 7, 1997 ceremonies honoring the 32 Marines from the 21st Infantry Battalion, Lake Denmark, Dover, who gave their lives for freedom during the Korean War.

Tin Can Who?

Tin Can Sailors is a national organization of Destroyer Sailors. Founded in 1976, they have since grown to over 16,800 members.

The mission of Tin Can Sailors is twofold. First, they promote camaraderie among Destroyer Sailors through their events and their newsletter. Second, they promote the preservation of destroyer history and work to broaden the public's understanding of the contributions made by Naval Destroyers and Destroyer Sailors.

Tin Can Sailors sponsor an annual national convention plus more than a dozen one-day Bull Sessions (mini-conventions) covering various regions of the country. The Field Day program provides opportunities for Tin Can Sailors to spend weekends living and working aboard six destroyers which have become museums. This program yields many hundreds of hours of skilled and enthusiastic volunteer labor for these ships of the "Historic Fleet."

The members receive 2 quarterly 32-page newsletters, ***The Tin Can Sailor***. This newsletter is also provided without charge to all Veterans Administration Medical Centers, to all active destroyer and frigate personnel and to hundreds of Destroyer Sailors who wish to receive it but cannot afford to make a contribution to Tin Can Sailors.

The Grant Program has made over \$578,000 in contributions over the past six years to help restore and maintain destroyers as museums. Those ships admit members and a guest for free, so a Tin Can Sailor membership card is a ticket to:

USS The Sullivans (DD-537) at Buffalo, New York

USS Kidd (DD-661) at Baton Rouge, Louisiana

USS Laffey (DD-724) at Charleston, South Carolina

USS Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. (DD-850) at Fall River, Massachusetts

USS Edson (DD-946) at New York, New York

USS Turner Joy (DD-951) at Bremerton, Washington

Tin Can Sailors is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. Tin Can Sailors does not lobby, take stands on legislation, or endorse candidates.

Contributed by: LR. KENNETH R. WILLIAMS,

N.J. State Captain Tin Can Sailors and Member Rockaway Post 175